

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 L-03 VO-03

SCA-01 INSE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /051 W

----- 115221

R 301953Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2246

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 16620

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, GW

SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

REFS: (A) STATE 240076; (B) BONN 20589 (1975)

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON LEGAL DIVISION OF FONOFF (KOEPEKE) FOR GENERAL REPORT ON STATUS OF FRG RECEPTION OF INDO-CHINESE REFUGEES AND DISCUSSION OF BOAT CASES. ACCORD-ING TO KOEPKE, ABOUT 800 VISAS HAVE BEEN ISSUED OF WHICH BETWEEN 500 AND 600 HAVE ALREADY BEEN USED TO SETTLE IN THE FRG. THUS, AT LEAST 200 VISA NUMBERS REMAIN FROM THE ORIGINAL QUOTA OF 1,000, WHICH THE FRG IS WILLING TO USE WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION FOR BOAT CASES, ACCORDING TO KOEPKE.

2. KOEPKE INDICATED THAT THE FRG CONSIDERS MOOT ANY
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QUESTION OF ACCEPTING MORE THAN THE 1,000 REFUGEES

PREVIOUSLY AGREED TO (REF B) AS LONG AS THAT QUOTA REMAINS UNFILLED. ANY INCREASE IN THIS QUOTA WOULD HAVE TO BE AGREED TO BY THE LAENDER. KOEPKE NOTED THAT THE FRG'S RESETTLEMENT CAPABILITIES WERE ALREADY STRAINED BY PROCESSING 4000 GERMANIC "SETTLERS" PER MONTH FROM EE AND THE USSR, AS WELL AS NUMEROUS REFUGEES FROM LEBANON, CHILE, ARGENTINA AND ELSEWHERE. KOEPKE MADE THE PERSONAL OBSERVATION THAT THE INDUSTRIOUSNESS, HONESTY, SKILL, AND WILLINGNESS TO WORK EVINced BY THE INDOCHINESE ALREADY IN THE FRG HAS MADE A FAVORABLE IMPRESSION.

3. COMMENT: WE DID NOT RAISE QUESTION OF REGIONAL PROCESSING CENTERS (REF A), BUT IN LIGHT OF THIS AND PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS, FRG ATTITUDE IS LIKELY TO BE FAVORABLE. FRG OBVIOUSLY SHARES US'S DEEP HUMANITARIAN CONCERN FOR PLIGHT OF REFUGEES. GIVEN ITS HEAVY COMMITMENT TO ONGOING RESETTLEMENT EFFORTS, HOWEVER, FRG WILL GIVE PRIORITY TO THEM. WE EXPECT IT TO SUPPORT ATTEMPTS TO PUT INDOCHINESE RESETTLEMENT PROBLEMS ON A BROAD INTERNATIONAL BASIS, TO ACCEPT 200 MORE REFUGEES, AND TO KEEP FURTHER DIRECT FRG INVOLVEMENT TO A MINIMUM.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BONN16620
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760371-0772
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t1976094/aaaaadaj.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ORM
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 240076, 76 BONN 20589
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <03 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES
TAGS: SREF, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006